



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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June 1, 2006

DE RELEASE NO. 2006-19

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NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR AT DIRECTED ENERGY

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. – Col. Kirk Kloeppel will become the deputy director of the Air Force Research Laboratory's Directed Energy Directorate later this month. He replaces Col. Michael Lamb, who departs for an assignment at Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif.

Kloeppel has been serving as the chief of the Tactical Laser Systems Branch here at the laboratory's Laser Division as well as the deputy commander of the Phillips Research Site.

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Kloeppel's previous assignments include: acting director at the engineering directorate at Robins Air Force Base, Ga.; chief of the Innovation Division at Air Force Headquarters in Rosslyn, Va.; as plans and policy officer with the United States Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, Va.; deputy commander-in-chief aide-de-camp at United States Atlantic Command in Norfolk, Va.; flight commander and test program manager with the Air Force Flight Test Center, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.; chief of the Integration Branch and Advanced Weapon System Aero Engineer at the 49th Test Squadron, Barksdale Air Force Base, La.; lead test engineer and lead structural engineer at the Advanced Cruise Missile System Program Office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Kloeppel earned his bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering at Texas A&M University in 1984. He began his Air Force career in 1984 as a loads and dynamics engineer and aircrew station design engineer. He received a master's degree in aerospace engineering in 1987 at University of Dayton and an additional master's in strategic studies from Air University in 2004.

His military education also includes graduation with honors from Squadron Officer School; Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB, Ala.; Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Va.; and Air War College at Maxwell AFB, Ala.

As a flight test engineer, Kloeppel has more than 300 hours logged on multiple aircraft including F-15, F-16, MH-60G, T-38, B-52, and EC-135E.

Among his achievements, Kloeppel was awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Joint Achievement Medal, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Air War College Defense Intelligence Agency Writing/Research Award and the Air War College Activity Award.